

00684.003556



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: Unassigned
Masanobu SAITO, et al.)
: Group Art Unit: 1756
Application No.: 10/715,533)
: Confirmation No.: 5584
Filed: November 19, 2003)
:
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS) March 25, 2004

Mail Stop Missing Parts

Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

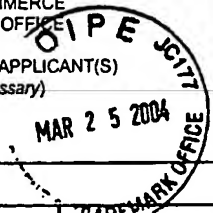
Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the patent documents listed on the enclosed citation Form PTO-1449. A copy of the non-English patent document and counterpart abstract is also enclosed.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S. Applications:

| <u>APPLICATION NO.</u> | <u>FILING DATE</u> | <u>GROUP ART UNIT</u> | <u>STATUS</u> | <u>APPLICANT</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 10/714,636 | 11/18/2003 | 2852 | Pending | Saito, et al. |
| 10/617,024 | 07/11/2003 | 2852 | Pending | Watanabe, et al. |
| 10/671,690 | 09/29/2003 | 2852 | Pending | Saito, et al. |

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| FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Submitted to the PTO: March 25, 2004 | | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 00684.003556 | | APPLICATION NO. 10/715,533 | |
| <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> | | | APPLICANT Masanobu SAITO, et al. | | | |
| FILING DATE November 19, 2003 | | | GROUP Unassigned | | | |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------|------------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|--|
| *EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE | |
| LB | 6,167,212 | 12/26/00 | Sato, et al. | 399 | 55 | | |
| LB | 6,272,306 B1 | 08/07/01 | Saito, et al. | 399 | 270 | | |
| LB | 6,415,127 B1 | 07/02/02 | Yamamoto, et al. | 399 | 284 | | |
| LB | 2003/0077088 A1 | 04/24/03 | Adachi, et al. | 399 | 129 | 10/11/02 | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|-------|----------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT | | |
| LB | 6-289703 | 10/18/94 | | | Abstract | | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | |
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| EXAMINER R. Beatty | DATE CONSIDERED 9/26/05 |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.